

Name: _____ Section: _____ Date: _____

ROMAN RESEARCH PAPER

CONCLUSION

The **conclusion**, or closing paragraph, wraps up your essay. It reminds the reader of the point and explains why your point matters and is relevant. Convince your reader his or her time was not wasted. There are lots of ways to do this. The idea is to creatively remind your reader of what they just read without simply summarizing everything you just wrote.

While conclusions can be creative, be sure to stick to information you know. If you don't, you run the risk of filling your conclusion with fluff. Remember, the last thing the reader reads leaves the biggest impression. Prove you know your stuff by repeating a few of your key facts from your body paragraphs and clearly linking those facts together to make a solid statement about your topic.

Methods

CONNECT TO TODAY: One of the most effective ways to prove your point matters in a history paper is to connect your topic to some aspect of life today. There is nothing more relevant than something happening right now. If you can connect your point to a current topic or issue, you have proven that it is relevant. The key to this method is to stay specific and rely on information you know.

EXPLAIN THE LARGER SIGNIFICANCE: This method answers the question "Why do I care?" without necessarily connecting the topic to today. Take a broader perspective and explain the result your topic had or an important effect it caused. Did it have a lasting impact on Roman culture? Was it replicated by cultures that came after?

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RAISE A QUESTION: After all this research, is there still something left unanswered? You can use your conclusion to point out an area in need of further investigation, information that could have helped you tie more pieces together. Is there something you are left wondering after writing your paper. Make sure if you use this method, that you are tying back to your point and reminding the reader of the points you made in your paper. Avoid simply planning your next research paper before the last one is complete.

SUMMARY: One of the most common types of conclusion is the summary because it can be very effective. The trick here is to restate your major ideas, usually in the topic sentences of your body paragraphs, but to use completely different words. You can mix up the order of the ideas or combine two related ideas into a single sentence. The idea is to remind the reader what they read, not to have them read the same thing again.

Sarah's Conclusion:

The details of this long story leave several questions unanswered, but they show one thing clearly: the decision to drop the atomic bomb was neither simple nor hasty. Like the bomb itself, the decision was the result of a complex chain of events. Certainly President Truman showed courage in taking sole responsibility for the nuclear horrors that engulfed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. However, the resolution to drop the bomb involved careful consideration of the issues – ethical, political, and military – by numerous people, all, no doubt, aware that their decision would have an irrevocable effect on the future of humanity.

restates point

summary of
main points

larger significance